

a1 This application claims priority to U.S. Serial No. 08/862,740, filed May 23, 1997, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,224,893, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/041,881, filed Apr. 11, 1997.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-3 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for making cartilage, comprising exposing a suspension of dissociated cells in a solution of a biocompatible polymer to free radicals generated by electromagnetic radiation from an electromagnetic source external to the suspension so that the electromagnetic radiation generates free radicals thereby forming the cartilage.

a2 2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, 8 or 9 wherein the electromagnetic radiation is selected from the group consisting of x-rays, ultrasound, infrared radiation, far infrared radiation, ultraviolet radiation, long-wavelength ultraviolet radiation, and visible light.

3. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, 8 or 9 wherein the suspension further comprises a photoinitiator.

Please add the following new claims:

a3 8. (New) A method for forming a tissue equivalent in a subject, comprising: injecting a suspension of dissociated cells in a solution of a biocompatible polymer into a subject, and exposing the suspension to free radicals generated by electromagnetic radiation from an electromagnetic source external to the injected suspension so that the electromagnetic radiation penetrates through tissue to generate free radicals thereby forming the cartilage.

9. (New) A method for forming a tissue equivalent, comprising: injecting a suspension of dissociated cells in a solution of a biocompatible polymer into a mold, and

exposing the suspension to free radicals generated by electromagnetic radiation from an electromagnetic source external to the suspension so that the electromagnetic radiation generates free radicals thereby forming the cartilage.

a3 10. (New) The method of Claim 2 wherein the x-rays, ultrasound, infrared radiation, far infrared radiation, ultra-violet radiation, long-wavelength ultraviolet radiation, or visible light is applied externally to the skin.

11. (New) The method of Claim 2 wherein the x-rays, ultrasound, infrared radiation, far infrared radiation, ultra-violet radiation, long-wavelength ultraviolet radiation, or visible light is applied within a synovial space to a polymer-cell suspension injected into an adjacent joint.